#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FT. WORTH DIVISION

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,	)
Plaintiff-Counterclaim Defendant,	)
v.	Civil Action No. 4:22-cv-052-F
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF	
SHEET METAL, AIR, RAIL AND	)
TRANSPORTATION WORKERS –	)
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION and	)
BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE	)
ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN,	)
Defendants-Counterclaim Plaintiffs.	) )
	<u>)</u>

# APPENDIX IN SUPPORT OF BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN'S OPPOSITION TO BNSF'S MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

NOW COMES, Defendant Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen and files this Appendix in Support of Its Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for a Preliminary Injunction.

<b>EXHIBIT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	PAGE NO.
1	Declaration of Dennis R. Pierce	App. 1-9
2	Declaration of M. Rob Cunningham	App. 10-27
3	Declaration of Kent Psota	App. 28-41

Dated: February 7, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James Petroff

James Petroff (Admitted Pro Hac Vice)
Joshua D. McInerney (N.D. Tex. Bar

Admission Pending)

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Counsel for Defendant BLET

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on February 7, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the ECF System, which will provide electronic notice and copies of such filing to the parties.

/s/ James Petroff

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FT. WORTH DIVISION

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,	)
Plaintiff-Counterclaim Defendant,	)
v.	Civil Action No. 4:22-cv-052-P
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF	)
SHEET METAL, AIR, RAIL AND TRANSPORTATION WORKERS –	)
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION and BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE	)
ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN,	)
Defendants-Counterclaim Plaintiffs.	, )
	<del>_/</del>

#### **DECLARATION OF DENNIS R. PIERCE**

- I, Dennis R. Pierce, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare that the following facts are true and correct:
- 1. I am the National President of the 58,000-member Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, a Division of the Rail Conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. I have served as the Brotherhood President since my elevation to the Brotherhood's highest office on July 1, 2010 and have been reelected to subsequent four year terms in 2010, 2014 and 2018.
- 2. I was also elected to serve as President of the Teamsters Rail Conference on June 24, 2010, and have been reelected to additional four-year terms on May 4, 2014, and on May 2, 2018. The Teamsters Rail Conference is made up of two Craft Divisions, BLET and BMWED.
- 3. I was also elected to serve as Chairman of the Cooperating Railway Labor Organizations (CRLO) in August of 2020. I also serve as one of the spokesmen for the

Coordinated Bargaining Coalition, an eleven Union coalition currently involved in national negotiations under the terms of Section 6 of the RLA with multiple rail carriers, including BNSF.

- 4. Prior to my election to the BLET's top post, I served the Brotherhood as First Vice President and Alternate President, since December 17, 2009. Prior to that, I served the Union as a National Vice President assigned to assist the Brotherhood on the CSX, CN and BNSF properties.
- 5. Prior to this service with the National Division, I served as General Chairman of the Burlington Northern-Northlines/ Montana Rail Link General Committee of Adjustment, a position I assumed in 2001. As General Chairman, I participated in many on-property negotiations with BNSF, the most important of which lead to on-property addendums to the National Agreement settlements in 2003 and 2007.
- 6. I began my railroad career as a Burlington Northern Maintenance of Way employee in 1977 in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1979, I transferred to a clerical position with Burlington Northern. In 1980, I transferred again to the firemen's craft and earned promotion to locomotive engineer in 1981.
- 7. I understand this Declaration is being offered in support of the BLET's opposition to BNSF's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. This Declaration is based on personal knowledge, and I am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein.
- 8. As National President, I am responsible for negotiating, interpreting, and enforcing the national collective bargaining agreements ("CBAs") under my jurisdiction between BLET and BNSF. I am familiar with the applicable local and national agreements, and the work practices relevant to this dispute which have become an integral and implicit part of those agreements between BLET and BNSF. Locomotive engineers are within the craft or class of workers

represented by BLET, and subject to the terms and conditions of employment set forth in the CBAs between BLET and BNSF.

- 9. BLET and BNSF are parties to multiple CBAs that govern the rates of pay, rules, and working conditions of BNSF's engineers represented by the Union. Some of the parties' collective bargaining agreements stem from National Agreements and some are system-wide in scope, meaning they cover all the engineers represented by BLET who are employed by BNSF. Other CBAs cover only those portions of the BNSF system that correspond to the properties of former railroads that have since been merged into BNSF.
- 10. On November 1, 2019, BNSF through the National Carriers Conference Committee ("NCCC"), in national bargaining on a multi-carrier and multi-union basis, served a Section 6 notice on me as BLET National Division President proposing changes to the parties' CBAs. A true and correct copy of the NCCC's Section 6 Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The issues in this round of bargaining include engineer quality of life issues, employee availability for work and sick leave. Since the parties served their Section 6 Notices, they have been discussing these matters at the bargaining table, but no resolution has been reached yet.
- 11. Despite these matters being put in issue and actively being negotiated under Section 6, BNSF unilaterally implemented its new High Visibility ("Hi Viz") attendance policy on February 1, 2022.
- 12. I have familiarized myself with the terms of the new Hi Viz policy. Indeed, I am intimately aware of the previous permutations of the BNSF attendance policy and how it has been litigated and arbitrated in the past since 1999.
- 13. I conclude that the Hi Viz policy will have devastating consequences not only for Union leaders who are being punished for lawful union activity, but most importantly, it will

completely disrupt the lives of engineers and their families. It truly is an egregious assault on the workforce – a dedicated group of thousands of engineers who have loyally worked long hours through the pandemic, risking their health and well-being so that the freight on BNSF's trains are moved for America. It is clear to me that by implementing this policy, BNSF has repudiated its obligation to even remotely abide by the agreements collectively bargained with its employees.

- 14. This Hi Viz policy is one of the harshest attendance policies in the industry and is absolutely uncalled for at any time, let alone during a pandemic. It will have a devastating impact on hard working Americans by making sick engineers come to work short of termination spreading COVID-19.
- 15. The Court should recognize BNSF's rhetoric is unfounded here as the policy comes with a proverbial two-edged sword. Under the policy, an engineer loses points for certain lay offs, but you cannot work your way out of that life changing loss of points going forward if you lay off again for any reason during the next fourteen days. BNSF is claiming that the good attendance credit is it being benevolent, but it is just as egregious as the point deductions process because any lay off (paid or unpaid) takes away your reset points for that fourteen-day period. As a result, the policy treats me negatively for taking my CBA provided paid leave, personal leave days or vacation. In application, this loss of point restoration creates an attendance penalty when I avail myself of my collectively bargained vacation and personal leave days, guaranteed to me by CBA. As such, the policy completely repudiates my CBA provided right to access to all forms of negotiated paid leave without any penalty from the employer.
- 16. Our CBA also expressly includes the right to reasonable lay off privileges, which as crafted, includes paid and unpaid time off. This policy is so obviously unreasonable that it repudiates that CBA. It reduces the number of previously permissible lay off days by more than

seventy percent. Understanding how engineers work due to the demands of the job, where the vast majority remain on-call 24 hours per day, seven days per week with no assigned or predictable days off, this policy is simply unconscionable. This is not a test of reasonableness, as argued by BNSF, that only an arbitrator can examine; the policy is so blatantly unreasonable that it constitutes a repudiation of the CBA, thus creating a major dispute.

- 17. For example, losing points and facing discipline for an unplanned medical event, not of the employee's choice, also fails all tests of reasonableness. It is important to understand that BNSF engineers have no paid sick leave by contract. Instead, they are entitled by contract to paid personal leave days, incrementally available based upon years of service, and paid vacation, also incrementally available based upon years of service. Prior to implementing this latest policy, BNSF implemented strict allocation limits location by location for all forms of paid leave, thus denying engineer requests to utilize the paid leave that they own by contract. When combined with the new policy, engineers have no choice when experiencing an unplanned medical event but to lay of sick. As has been established, that now "unpaid lay off" due to bona fide unplanned illness, including COVID-19, will take considerable points away from a sick employee. On the other side of the policy, the "unpaid lay off" will also eliminate the ironically named good attendance restoration of points, by no fault of the engineer. BNSF's policy relentlessly punishes sick employees during a global pandemic, and as such fails all tests of reasonableness.
- 18. The same is true for a fatigued engineer who was not given adequate train line up information to be rested for work. For example, an engineer may anticipate being called for work at 8:00 am and be ready and rested for that call. But with little if any warning, the engineer is called at midnight the night before, having had inadequate predictability to be physically rested. Because there is no fatigue-related lay off exception in the policy, the involved engineer must work

fatigued or lay off in some fashion. As previously noted, access to contractually provide paid leave is routinely denied and a fatigued engineer is forced to lay off unpaid, thus creating an unreasonable application of his or her CBA provided rights to be away from work due to the loss of points. The message is: work tired and work sick, or get fired.

19. The fact that there is also no exception for a lay off of any kind to attend a routine doctor's visit is also completely unreasonable. At the national negotiations currently underway, the rail carriers have argued that their employees refuse to play a big enough role in their own health care outcomes. Because you have to schedule the doctor's appointments for routine visits in advance in most cases, and these employees have no idea what days they will be home between trips, they have no choice but to take time off to participate in their improved medical outcome. BNSF engineers do not sit at desks with the ability to leave work for a few hours to see their doctor. Instead, these employees who possess no scheduled days off, and who must schedule their doctor visits days, weeks or months in advance, have no idea if they will be able to see their doctor without needing to lay off in some fashion from work. Under the unreasonable application of the new policy, they must risk their employment and access to their health care insurance as it is tied to their employment if they lay off, or cancel their appointment incurring unrecoverable costs, and potentially being dropped by the doctor. It must also be noted that, as a form of costs savings to BNSF, the prescription drug benefits provided by contract include drug formulary adjustments every six months. In many cases, medically necessary and previously prescribed drugs are removed from the formulary with little notice. To continue to receive the removed drug, or to obtain a prescription for a new drug, the engineer must schedule a doctor's visit to obtain a medical exception to continue to receive the removed drug, or to obtain a prescription for a replacement drug. Again, the doctor's visit must be scheduled in advance, with little if any way of knowing if the engineer can make that visit without laying off, thus jeopardizing employment and again jeopardizing access to health care insurance. The hypocrisy of suggesting that engineers won't participate more in their health care outcomes, when doing so routinely requires an absence that could get them terminated is truly astounding. Even more egregious is that engineers must take routine vision and hearing testing to maintain their engineer certification. Under one policy, BNSF requires that I schedule a medical visit, then BNSF takes away attendance points, or takes away the good attendance restoration of points, with no known exceptions available, when I must lay off to satisfy that obligation. This is also a repudiation of everything reasonable.

- With respect to paid leave, personal leave days and vacation start at a fixed time for these employees. The vast majority of BNSF engineers do not have fixed or scheduled on duty times as they roll into any scheduled time off, including their paid leave. The long-standing practice has been to allow engineers to lay off prior to their approved and scheduled time off if they are called for an unscheduled shift that would require them to work into it, and in some cases, all the way through their approved time off. The new policy takes points away and eliminates good attendance restoration of points if you have to take off in advance of your CBA-provided paid leave, which has always been an understood and unavoidable application of the CBA. In application, the policy deprives the employee of his CBA provided paid leave, short of discipline, if he must lay off in advance to access paid leave guaranteed under contract, thus repudiating BNSF obligation under the contract.
- 21. Moreover, many of our members are divorced and subject to visitation orders, issued by the involved courts. The current policy has no exception for any lay off necessary to satisfy court ordered visitation, and as such, it again fails all tests of reasonableness. If an engineer with no scheduled days off is slated by court order to have a visit at his home with his minor

children, he either lays off in some fashion incurring loss of points or loss of points restoration, or he violates his obligations to provide court ordered child visitation. If any lay off is reasonable, it is one that is required to satisfy a court order; this is just one more way that the policy repudiates BNSF's obligation to provide reasonable lay off privileges without threat of retaliation up to and including termination.

- 22. As part of the Union's request for injunctive relief, it simply is not true that everything that happens to an employee in the application of this policy can be remedied through arbitration (which can take years), as BNSF claims. BNSF does not talk about the loss of income for months and years before the slow processes of RLA arbitration obtains results. They do not talk about the loss of health care benefits while in terminated status, depriving those employees of treatments for medical events, all while we are in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic. Medical events and costs while terminated, and related bankruptcies while waiting for arbitration, do not get addressed when only "back pay" is won in arbitration. The loss of homes and families tied to the loss of employment and income are also ignored by BNSF in its callous suggestion that the employees will suffer no "irreparable harm".
- 23. BNSF is one of the largest railroads in the world. It essentially has a duopoly with Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") in the western United States in the Class I rail business. It is extremely profitable. Its claims that it needs to make these changes are simply not true. It has laid off several thousand workers during the pandemic and the so-called supply chain crisis. These moves are simply part of its Precision Scheduled Railroading business model, which like other "lean and mean" staffing models in other industries inevitably leads to a "race to the bottom." The problem is, in a mature market like railroading, everyone can race to the bottom, and no one gets a comparative advantage at all. In the end, it is just a business model which puts short term profits

ahead of workers and the public. Cutting workers and making the remaining workers work beyond

reason eventually weakens the business.

24. BNSF is not at a competitive disadvantage with UP; rather, BNSF is the one racing

to the bottom. In reality, the policy is nothing more than a reflection of the corporate mindset of

BNSF management. It is an attempt to increase short term profits with no regard to the impact on

the employees. In the long run, this policy actually hurts the carrier in its efforts to staff its

workforce, but more importantly, it hurts their employees. Ultimately, it is the American public

that suffers as these self-inflicted wounds negatively impact the supply chain.

25. BNSF's arguments that it needs this policy because of abuse of time off during the

Superbowl is equally ludicrous. BNSF always has had the power to discipline employees who

abuse the system. But the Hi Viz policy does not target those people – it targets every engineer. It

targets their quality of life, stealing it in contravention of the express terms of our CBA. Finally,

the fact that any previous attendance policy has been considered a minor dispute does not mean

that BNSF can adopt any subsequent policy and have it automatically be considered the same.

This policy is "a bridge to far" as it repudiates multiple contractual obligations that BNSF

voluntarily entered into with its employees. As such, it does satisfy the test required of all major

disputes.

26. The parties have treated these issues as a major dispute in national rail negotiations.

The Court must as well.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the

foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: February 7, 2022

Dennis R. Pierce

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SHEET METAL, AIR, RAIL AND TRANSPORTATION WORKERS – TRANSPORTATION DIVISION and BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE	) ) ) )
ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN,  Defendants-Counterclaim Plaintiffs.	) ) <u>)</u>

#### **DECLARATION OF M. ROB CUNNINGHAM**

- I, M. Rob Cunningham, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare that the following facts are true and correct:
- 1. I am the General Chairman ("GC") of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen ("BLET") BNSF (formerly ATSF) General Committee of Adjustment ("GCA"). I have served as GC for the GCA since 2019 and have been employed at Burlington, Northern, Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") since 1993. I understand this Declaration is being offered in support of the BLET's opposition to BNSF's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. This Declaration is based on personal knowledge, and I am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein.
- 2. As GC, I am responsible for negotiating, interpreting, and enforcing the collective bargaining agreements ("CBAs") under my jurisdiction between BLET and BNSF. I am familiar with the applicable local and national agreements, and the work practices relevant to this dispute which have become an integral and implicit part of those agreements between BLET and BNSF.

Locomotive engineers are within the craft or class of workers represented by BLET, and subject to the terms and conditions of employment set forth in the CBAs between BLET and BNSF.

- 3. BLET and BNSF are parties to multiple CBAs that govern the rates of pay, rules, and working conditions of BNSF's engineers represented by the Union. Some of the parties' collective bargaining agreements are system-wide in scope, meaning they cover all the engineers represented by BLET who are employed by BNSF. Other CBAs cover only those portions of the BNSF system that correspond to the properties of former railroads that have since been merged into BNSF.
- 4. I have previously provided my verification to the facts of the BLET Counterclaim (ECF Doc. 38) in this action.
- 5. BNSF's new Hi-Viz policy gives Train Yard and Engine service employees ("TYE") 30 points to use when they need to take time off away from the railroad. That is, BNSF has created a point scale to deduct points for lay offs from the original 30 points based on the day of the week and the type of service in which the employee is working. The two types of service are assigned and unassigned through freight. Employees in assigned service have a more severe point deduction for taking days off outside of the scheduled days off.
- 6. Attached is a document provided by BNSF which provides explanation for the codes used on the BNSF Hi Viz policy.
- 7. Here is a chart I developed to explain the various codes and rail terminology to assist the Court:

TYE	Train Yard and Engine service employees
Pool or chain gang pool	A "pool" of employees that rotate in order. Once reaching the first
	out position the TYE employee stands to be called for service.
	Once called the next "pool turn" moves up to the first out position.
	When returning from duty the TYE employee is placed to the
	bottom or foot of the pool board and the rotation repeats.

Assigned Service	Assigned service typically consists of a 5-day work week with 2 scheduled rest days.
Unassigned Through Freight Service or Pool Service	Unassigned service employees have no scheduled or guaranteed rest days. These employees work a 24/7/365 schedule using paid leave and layoffs when they need to be off.
4-2 rest cycle boards	These are unassigned through freight pools that could earn rest days. They must work 4 starts to get the ability to earn 24 or 48 hours off.
Layoff (mark off)	A layoff is a term used when a railroad employee removes him/herself from service.
Marked up	This means a TYE employee is available for service
Unavailable Time	Anytime the TYE employee is unavailable for call outside of contractual time off.
Bump Time (BMP)	When an employee is displaced from a job by a senior employee, the displaced employee is allowed 24 hours to find a new job and displace a junior person.
Failure to take bump notification (LXU)	When an employee is bumped (displaced) by a senior employee the BNSF will call to notify the employee that he/she was displaced. The employee is given 10 hours to accept the notification. After 10 hours, if the employee has not accepted the notification the time is treated as unavailable time same as a layoff.
Tie Up	This is when employees "clock out" after a shift.
Failure to Tie Up (LFT)	When an employee fails to tie up at the end of a shift the computer system shows them on continuous duty possibly making them unavailable for the next tour of duty. When this happens, it can be charged as a layoff.
Employee Missed Call (EMC)	When a TYE employee standing first out to be called for service does not answer the phone to take the call for work.
Layoff on Call (LOC)	When a TYE employee standing first out to be called for service answers the phone call for service and instead must layoff and cannot take the call for duty.
No Show (NOS)	When a TYE employee accepts a call for duty, then fails to show up, or a regular scheduled employee fails to show up for the starting time of the job scheduled to work.
High Impact Day (HID)	Days BNSF has designated as having higher impact on TYE availability than other days. These are mostly holidays but also include Super Bowl Sunday.
Union Business (UNB)	This is the code union representatives use to remove them from the calling order to handle union related task; Representation, settle grievances, etc.
Layoff Sick (LOS)	This is the layoff code used in the BNSF system when an employee is removing themselves from service due to illness.

Layoff Personal (LOP)	This is the layoff code used in the BNSF system when an
	employee is removing themselves from service for reasons of a
	personal nature.
Sickness in Family (SIF)	This is the layoff code used in the BNSF system when an
• , ,	employee is removing themselves from service due to a family
	illness.
Family Emergency (FEM)	This code is used in cases of an emergency layoff. This type of
	layoff requires the employee to follow up with BNSF within 24
	hours.
Layoff Fatigue (LOF)	This code is used when an employee needs time off due to fatigue.
Lay of Away/Active or after	Employees who layoff from the active board, at the AFHT or after
shift starts (LOA)	a shift has begun will be shown as LOA. LOA is considered an
Shirt Starts (EST1)	unavailable event.
Layoff Dressed and Ready	Employees who are not ready to perform service at the on-duty
(LOD)	time can be set home and laid off LOD. This could be an
(LOD)	employee who was on time but did not have his proper PPE and
	work gear ready to go at the on-duty time.
Good attendance Credits	These are points that are earned by TYE employees for being
(New Policy)	marked up and working for 14 days without using any paid leave
(New Folley)	or unavailable time. 4 points will be earned for every 14-day
	period.
Vacation day (VAC SDV)	
Vacation day (VAC, SDV)	Vacation days can be taken in single day increments or in blocks.
	The vacation code for single days is SDV and a block of vacation
D 11 D (DID)	code is VAC. VAC can and is used for both.
Personal Leave Day (PLD)	Personal Leave Days are days that must be requested and granted
T 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	by the Carrier. Engineers earn PLDs by agreement.
Family and Medical Leave	Employees who qualify for leave under the Family and Medical
(FML)	Leave Act use the FML code when laying off.
Smart Rest (SRS)	Smart rest allows a TYE employee to take a 24-hour period off to
	break the start count outlined in the Rail Safety Improvement Act.
	This allows employees to work more days without taking a
	mandatory 48 or 72 hours off under the law. Smart Rest was
	created by agreement.
Computer Based Training	TYE employees use this code to layoff when required to complete
(CBT)	computer-based training.
Rules (RUL)	Like CBT code. Used to attend rules training.
Layoff Company Business	TYE employees use this code when attending company meetings
(LCB)	or other company required events IE: Safety Meetings, Rules
	Briefings
Death in Family (DIF)	Employees who lose a family member covered by the
	bereavement agreement use this code when they are off.
Layoff Medical Leave	TYE employees who must be off for medical reason are laid off by
(LAM)	the Carrier with this code when approved.
Layoff Jury Duty (LOJ)	This code is used when summoned to jury duty.
Layoff Investigation (LOI)	This code is used for employees who are required to attend a
	disciplinary hearing.

Any Day layoff	This is from the old attendance policy. Employees in assigned
	service could take 1 "ANY DAY" off per month. This means it
	didn't matter if it were a weekend or a weekday.

- 8. In 2020, the entire world was faced with a pandemic something most of us have never seen in our lifetime. The Engineers and Conductors on the Nation's rail carriers picked up the slack and continued to take calls for work and keep the freight of the American people moving. While shelves were bare and the American people lived in fear for what could happen if they got sick, railroaders continued to go to work: eating gas station burritos, sleeping in hotels, not knowing if their accommodations were really sanitized.
- 9. Our BLET members worked in conditions that others refused. When our members came down with COVID-19, they were sent home. The employee that worked with the sick employee was also sent home for 14 days. These employees, although exposed at work, were paid for 4 out of 14 days by their employer.
- 10. Furloughed employee numbers were high, but BNSF would not recall employees to get relief for those that were working. Our members were expected to be at work while the BNSF managers decided that their cubicles were not safe, and they should all work from home.
- 11. Then, in the middle of this pandemic, BNSF decided that it would reduce the layoff and vacation allocations for employees. Reducing the employee's ability to access their paid leave time. The reductions were drastic. In locations with large workforces, allocations were reduced to where only 3 people could get a paid leave day at any time. If that day were a weekend, it was an even lower allocation number. The workforce was already tired and frustrated, now the employees were just mad. How could their employer treat them this way? We have all asked this question.
- 12. Rolling into 2021, we began to hear rumors of attendance policy changes. On multiple occasions I asked BNSF to negotiate any change that was to be made. BLET and SMART-

TD together asked to negotiate changes so that we could secure predictable time off for our members. BNSF refused.

- 13. Now here we are in 2022. The pandemic is not over. People are sick with the Omicron variant. Our members are still going to work and doing what they have been since the beginning, but instead of rewarding the employees, they get a mandate that they must work more to secure more profits for the railroad and its shareholders.
- 14. My office has been flooded with calls and emails. Many of them are angry and frustrated, but others sound hopeless. Engineers and trainmen with 20+ year careers are walking away from their careers because the demand is too much for their mental and physical health.
- 15. Younger employees are searching for other options because the railroad job they thought would be a career is no longer sustainable for them. BNSF has seen this and acknowledged this, but the response is the same, we must continue to compete.
- 16. This truly feels like a concerted job action by the BNSF: make the working conditions harsh enough that employees will quit or be fired. Hiring will become nearly impossible. Considering that the BNSF has driven the SMART-TD to bargain for crew size, the next step will be to beg the government for help because BNSF cannot get people to work for them. BNSF is creating its own manpower shortage and blaming the employees for the problem.
- 17. BNSF employees have been subject to an attendance policy since 2000. As an employee, I was subject to the policy. As a Union officer, I have represented numerous employees who have run afoul of the policy. In the policy, it was stated that "Managers should never act in a rigid or "wooden" manner, and in every case should use common sense". BNSF is such a large corporation that the application of the attendance policy became mechanistically applied in short order.

- 18. I have witnessed employees who have had legitimate health issues or family members with life threating illnesses, be terminated without a second thought. Some of these employees were returned to service through the section 3 arbitration process, but because the railroad could show a technical violation of its policy, the dismissed employee was returned without back pay. These employees who have been and will be terminated and returned to service suffer irreparable harm. They end up losing their homes, their health care, their savings, their families, only to be returned to work with the threat of another dismissal looming. The point I make here, the arbitration process is not a process that reverses any harm created to the employees as the BNSF would lead the Court to believe. To say an employee can get their home back, their health back or their destroyed marriage back through the arbitration process is a blatant lie to this Court.
- 19. The employees stand to face irreparable harm by BNSF's new Hi-Viz policy. The "old" attendance policy, while far from perfect, allowed the employees to take time off outside of paid leave time to spend time a child's ballgame or to take a family member to a doctor's appointment 5 or 6 hours from home. The old policy required employees to be available 75% of the time; weekdays and weekends measured separately. The policy also allowed employees to "bunch" their days off in a 90-day rolling period. This would allow an employee to take more than the 5 weekdays and 2 weekend days in a single month to cover some unforeseen issue. The employee would have to make that time up in the following months.
- 20. The new Hi-Viz policy will require employees to be available over 90% of the time. This will not allow employees to be off for life events with their children. This will not allow employees to spend a couple of days with a dying relative. This will not allow employees to take a mental health break from a job that keeps them on call 24/7/365.

- 21. BNSF's new Hi-Viz policy creates new issues for employees. When working in unassigned freight service, an employee is required to take calls day and night with 1.5 to 2 hours of notice. There are no schedules for these employees. They must carry a phone or be close by their phones nearly all the time. Other than our work lives, everything else is scheduled. Our children play sports, preform in school plays, have parent teacher conferences, have doctor and dentist appointments, all on schedules. When an unassigned employee goes to work, he/she could be away from home 12 hours up to 48 hours depending on the service required. If an employee has a vacation scheduled to start on a Monday morning, flights scheduled, vacation rental already paid in advance, and that employee is called to go to work on Sunday afternoon, there is only one choice to be made. Go to work and forfeit the family vacation and money spent, or layoff to get to the vacation.
- 22. The latter is what will and has occurred for a century. BNSF's new policy will now penalize the employee additional points because of the layoff prior to vacation. BNSF will certainly argue that you should have points to spend for this, but life is uncertain. This could put an employee in a situation to choose between family or BNSF.
- 23. This should not be the case because this is a penalty for using scheduled vacation time. Vacation time is a collectively bargained leave accrued by years of service. The BNSF has no right to penalize employees for using their vacation. The penalty is a mechanism to keep employees working even if it means working into their vacation time.
- 24. BNSF contends that the prior policy did not create a buffer to get to paid leave and Hi-Viz does not change that. While it may be somewhat factual, it is not an apples-to-apples comparison. Under the old policy, the employees were allotted more time, so having to layoff to access vacation was not a large issue. The old policy also did not penalize the employee for laying

off to get to vacation. The employee was simply shown as unavailable for the day prior to vacation. then on vacation. There was no penalty involved for tying vacation to a layoff as there now is under the Hi-Viz policy.

- Furthermore, BNSF has stated that employees enjoy substantial time off. BNSF considers the amount of time the Federal law requires them to give employees off to be a substantial amount. The Federal Law requires that an employee working in covered service to have a minimum of 10 hours off after performing service. Employees can work six (6) shifts or starts and after the sixth it requires a mandatory 48 hours off. At the end of that 48 hours, the employee will be first on the board to go to work.
- 26. This usually means with call time; the employee is back on duty exactly on the 48-hour mark. Keep in mind that an unassigned employee had to be called at home to go to work on three (3) occasions, stay at the away terminal three (3) times to get to this 48 hours. Those trips could range from 32-48 hours. This means the employee spent 4.5 days away from home to get to those 48 hours off.
- 27. Working at all hours of the day or night, the first 10 hours of that 48 are trying to get rested or staying up all day while exhausted just to enjoy some time with family and maybe mow the lawn. When all is said and done, these employees might get 24 hours of real time off and it is not scheduled. The management that makes these claims of employees getting sufficient time off, work a daylight schedule in an office with weekends off.
- 28. BNSF's Hi-Viz policy punishes employees who also work for the Unions. When a Union representative must layoff to represent another employee, meet with the Carrier to settle grievances, or attend a union meeting, the layoff will disrupt the employee's ability to earn good attendance credit. In 2021, on six of BNSF's territories that my GCA represents, our local

representatives had to handle 5183 scheduled investigations. These are disciplinary hearings scheduled by the BNSF that require our representatives time to handle. Many of these are settled before ever going to a hearing, but that is due to the representation provided. This does not include the thousands of declined time claims these representatives must handle. When a Union officer must layoff to handle his own personal business or illness, he/she will be deducted points for those days. Let's say the illness was for multiple days and the deduction was 13 points. Because of the amount of work to be done as a union representative, those points will be impossible to earn back. The only way to earn those points back is to be available without any paid leave, UNB, FML, etc. for 14 days. If the Union representative never lays off again but cannot maintain the 14-day period to earn points, by virtue of using Union business, vacation, and personal leave this employee could spend the rest of his/her career at 17 points. BNSF can and will penalize these individuals for being off to handle their elected duties under the Hi Viz policy.

- 29. Our agreement states that a Local Chairman laying off for the purposes stipulated will not be "considered as laying off or missing a call." BNSF's Hi-Viz treats the Union business as a layoff plain and simple. This is a clear repudiation of the agreement.
- 30. BNSF will suffer no harm by a delay or interruption of the Hi-Viz policy. In the first Macedonio declaration, paragraph 8, BNSF stated its policy does not change anything. It only consolidates current policy and processes already being used on the property. If this statement is true, then there is no proof of any harm.
- 31. The harm that will be done to the employees is immense and irreversible. Employees will have to decide between seeing their children grow and being a part of their lives or work for BNSF. Many employees are already making life altering decisions and walking away. Others will continue to work until they can no longer continue or end up dismissed. Then some

will endure. No matter what path is chosen by the employees, harm is being done and arbitration will not remedy that harm.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: February 7, 2022

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# Case 4:22-cv-00052-P Document 49-1 Filed 02/07/22 Page 23 of 43 PageID 827 Layoff Code Listing (Updated 1/24/22)

Layoff Codes Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted			
Layoff Code	Description	Layoff Code	Description
<u>CIR</u>	Critical Incident Report	FOB/NFB/BFB	Move to Foot of Board
<u>LAH</u>	Layoff Alternative Handling	<u>LCB</u>	Layoff Company Business
<u>LET</u>	Layoff Engineer Training	LRC/LRP/LRD	Layoff Rest Day for pools and extra boards with 7/3 rest day agreements
<u>LXX</u>	Failure to Take Notification	<u>LYM</u>	Working as Yardmaster
MLV/LML	Military Leave of Absence	NGD	National Guard, Drill Training, State Emergencies
RUL/CBT /ERC/DRC /TRN	Rules Class, Computer Based Training, Engineer Recertification, Decertification Retraining, Training		

Layoff Codes Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted			
Layoff Code	Description	Layoff Code	Description
CLD	Canadian Leave Day	DIF	Death in Family
<u>FML</u>	Family Medical Leave Act	<u>ION/INJ</u>	Injury On-Duty
<u>LOI</u>	Layoff Investigation	<u>LOJ</u>	Layoff for Jury Duty
<u>LPA/LAB</u>	Personal Leave of Absence	MED/LAM	Medical Leave of Absence
MEV	Layoff code for vaccine appointments only	<u>OFL</u>	Other Family Leave (Available in CA only)
PLD	Paid Leave Day	PRE	Pre-vacation, not available for call
<u>SCA</u>	School Conference & Activity (Only available in specific states)	<u>UNB</u>	Union Business
<u>VAC</u>	Vacation		

Layoff C	Layoff Codes with Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit		
Layoff Code	Description	Layoff Code	Description
<u>EMC</u>	Employee Missed Call	<u>FEM</u>	Family Emergency
<u>LFT</u>	Failed to Tie Up	<u>LOA</u>	Layoff away-from-home- terminal or after the start of the shift / Layoff on Active Board
LOC	Layoff on Call	LOD	Layoff Dressed & Ready to Work
LOF	Layoff Fatigue	LOP	Layoff Personal Business
LOS	Layoff Sick	LXU	Failure to Take Notification
<u>NOS</u>	No Show for Work	SIF	Sick in Family

#### **Code Explanations:**

- (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted
- (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted
- (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

#### <u>Layoff Codes Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted:</u>

**Critical Incident Report (CIR)**: This code is for employees distressed following a critical incident, such as a highway grade crossing accident. A supervisor must authorize the time off and the employee is eligible for trauma intervention with authorized paid leave. The supervisor provides a letter to the employee explaining the program. If additional time off is needed, the employee must secure a medical leave of absence. See your General Notices for instructions.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

Foot of Board (FOB/NFB/BFB): This code is only applicable to pools that have a Foot of Board Agreement. FOB means the employee has notified the Crew system that the turn assigned to the employee should be dropped to the bottom of the board immediately. NFB is applied to a turn after an employee notifies the Crew system, they may drop the turn to the bottom of the board, but the action does not take place until the turn reaches a set number of times out (identified in the agreement). NFB can be removed from the turn any time before reaching that set number of times out and the turn stays in its original pool rotation. In pools with a BFB provision, when an employee bids in a pool turn, the turn drops to the bottom of the board and starts working its way up.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Alternative Handling (LAH)**: In some cases of rules violations, employees may be eligible for alternative handling in lieu of discipline. The violation must have resulted in an investigation notice which lists the employee as a principal. If the employee accepts responsibility for the violation and meets the eligibility criteria, this code can be used for the training time.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Company Business (LCB)**: This code is available for employees who need to be absent from their regular assignment to perform other company business. A few examples are:

Ш	Directed by a supervisor to attend a meeting
	Attend safety meetings if member of the safety team
	Training other employees during activities, such as a safety marathon, etc.

This code should not be used when marking off for an investigation (use LOI), computer-based training (use CBT) or other instances where a detailed layoff code is already available.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Engineer Training (LET):** This code is for engineers who have instructions to report for training in Overland Park.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Rest Day (LRC/LRP/LRD)**: This code represents layoffs for rest days in unassigned service (e.g., extra boards and pool service).

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Not Notified (LXX)**: LXX indicates an employee has been moved to a different assignment and the Crew Support Center is attempting to notify the employee. This code is automatic, and an employee cannot mark to this status on their own. Failure to take notification for employees not subject to call is LXX and is excluded time (which reduces the overall layoff threshold but is not considered unavailable). For employees subject to call, the employee has 10 hours of excluded time to take the call; if notification has not been accepted after 10 hours, all time is counted as unavailable in the Hi-Viz Guidelines and the LXX code is changed to LXU.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Working as Yardmaster (LYM)**: Employees working in train service, who are qualified yardmasters, are marked off their TYE assignments to work yardmaster assignments with the LYM code. TY&E employees that are extra list Yardmasters are contractually obligated to protect Yardmaster service even when on rest days; however, we have provided the option for employees to use the LYR code up to two times per month on rest days. (LYR does not count against any guarantee).

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Military Leave (MLV/LML)**: This code can be used by employees who leave the services of BNSF Railway to enlist, be inducted or who are called or recalled to duty into the Armed Forces of the United States, the State National Guard, one of the various Reserve Units of the Armed Services, or any other service in the uniformed services as defined in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). This is not the code for National Guard drills.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**National Guard (NGD)**: Employees enlisted in National Guard service can use this code to mark off and report for service. NGD is initially ineligible for Good Attendance Credit, however, once orders or LES are provided, that time will be considered available.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted (upon verification of military service through Leave and Earning Statement or orders)

Rules/Computer based training/Recertification/Decertification/Training

(RUL/CBT/ERC/DRC/TRN): Codes available for employees who must be absent from their regular assignment to attend rules classes, computer-based training, recertification, decertification, or other required training. Because the employee is working, this time is considered available in the Hi-Viz Guidelines. Layoffs may be subject to availability and if the layoff is declined, the employee should contact their supervisor. Some division general notices state these codes should not be used over the weekend.

☐ (E) Eligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

#### <u>Layoff Codes Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted:</u>

Canadian Leave Day (CLD): Employees in Canada may use this code when, (a) treating their illness or injury, (b) carrying out responsibilities related to the health or care of any of their family members, (c) carrying out responsibilities related to the education of any of their family members who are under 18 years of age, (d) addressing any urgent matter concerning themselves or their family members, (e) attending their citizenship ceremony or (f) any other reason prescribed by regulation. BNSF may request the employee provide documentation to support the reasons for leave if that information is reasonably practicable to obtain. Up to 5 days each calendar year with the first 3 days paid if the employee has completed 3 consecutive months of continuous employment. (Subject to change with pending legislation)

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted & No Points Deducted

**Death in Family (DIF)**: This code is for employees who have experienced the unfortunate loss of a family member that is covered by Bereavement Pay and need an immediate layoff. For family members not covered by bereavement pay, you should obtain a pre-approved LOP, PLD or VAC. In case of emergency, please see the code for Family Emergency (FEM). Check General Notices for complete instructions on use of this code.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Family Medical Leave Act (FML)**: To qualify for this code, a person must complete a Notice of Intent to Take Paid/Unpaid FMLA Leave and be approved for the use of FMLA through BNSF Employee Services. FMLA is to be used for reasons and within the parameters of the approved leave. For an FMLA application, click on the link below and follow the steps to apply. https://employee.bnsf.com/employee/Pages/fmla.aspx

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Injury on Duty (ION/INJ)**: All on-duty injuries must be reported immediately and, as a result, use of this code must be approved by a supervisor. If the injury requires extended time off beyond 10 days, you should seek a medical leave with your supervisor; at that point the layoff should be converted to a Medical Layoff to protect your benefit coverage.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Investigation (LOI)**: Employees required to attend formal investigations for rules violations may use this layoff code prior to the investigation, if working their assignment will result in not returning to the home terminal in time to attend the hearing.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Layoff Jury Duty (LOJ)**: The labor agreements between the organizations and BNSF allow employees summoned to perform their civic duties without a loss of pay. Employees instructed by the courts to report for jury duty at a specific date and time are authorized to mark off for Jury Duty. Do not use this code without being summoned for Jury Duty. To ensure this layoff qualifies for compensation and how to submit for that compensation, refer to the Jury Duty General Notice.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

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**Personal Leave of Absence (LPA/LAB)**: These codes are used when an employee is approved for a Personal Leave of Absence. Employees are expected to mark up for duty by the LOA end date. If for any reason the employee is unable to report for duty, they must request a leave extension. Extension requests must be made in time to permit action by Leaves Administration prior to the expiration of the leave.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Medical Layoff (MED/LAM)**: These codes require a statement from the physician describing the length of time an employee will need to be absent from work. The statement should not include any medical details, just the length of time. After a supervisor grants a medical leave of absence, the employee must keep the leave current by extending the leave or returning to work prior to the expiration of the leave. When returning to work, a medical release from the physician and approval from BNSF's Medical Department must be obtained before marking up.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Medical Vaccine (MEV)**: As with any type of vaccine, employees are encouraged to try and schedule an appointment outside of work hours. However, we understand that COVID-19 vaccinations appointments may be limited in some areas. Under these circumstances, should an appointment conflict with work hours, Transportation employees should layoff using code "MEV" (Medical Vaccine) so they can make their appointment and mark-up immediately afterward.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Other Family Leave (OFL)**: Employees in California may use this code to mark off when they need time off to bond with their new baby, or to care for themselves or a family member with a serious health condition. The time off must be pre-approved and not immediate.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Personal Leave Days (PLD)**: The number of personal leave days an employee receives each year is based on the agreement applicable to the assignment and territory where the person works. Days are accumulated based on the number of years employed by BNSF in the train or engine craft, not on the number of seniority dates you have in a craft. For example, if you receive 10 days each year as an engineer and 10 days each year as a conductor, the total number of personal leave days you can take off each year is 10.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Pre-Vacation (PRE)**: Engineers taking seven or more days of vacation, whose assignments are called to protect service between 12:01 AM and 9:00 AM on the first vacation day, will be moved into the PRE status and they will not have to protect that call.

#### ☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**School Conference & Activity (SCA)**: Employees in California, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, and Minnesota may use this code to mark off when they need to attend their child's school conference and/or activity. The time off must be pre-approved and not immediate.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted
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**Union Business (UNB)**: This code is reserved for union representatives who must be absent from work to perform work with their organization. Union officers should contact the Crew Support Center or their General Chairman for authorization to use this code if they're not set up in the Crew system.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

**Vacation (VAC)**: This code is for single day vacations and vacations of seven days or more. If an employee has a vacation scheduled, the system will automatically place the employee in this status when the vacation starts.

☐ (I) Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit & No Points Deducted

#### <u>Layoff Codes with Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit:</u>

**Employee Missed Call (EMC)**: Employee Missed Call is prohibited. An EMC has potential to delay trains and adversely affect other employees filling the vacancy. Employees are subject to call and must not be absent from their calling place without notifying those required to call them.

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Family Emergency (FEM)**: This code allows for an immediate layoff in the event an employee needs to assist their family during an emergency. System General Notice requires that the employee contact a supervisor within 24-hours to advise the nature of the emergency.

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Failure to Tie-Up (LFT):** This code is applied for employees who fail to tie up at the end of their shift per system general notice. This code is generated in TSS.

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

Layoff Active Board / Away Terminal or After Start of Shift (LOA): Dual purpose code used for employees that layoff while on a "Planner Activated Board" and/or for employees that layoff for emergencies where the employee cannot complete a shift or return to the home terminal because of illness or an emergency at home. (LOA - Layoff Away Terminal can only be used for emergencies and must have supervisor authorization)

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Layoff on Call (LOC)**: Layoff on Call is prohibited. An LOC has potential to delay trains and adversely affect other employees filling the vacancy. If the layoff on call is unavoidable, employees must talk to a Crew Support representative to be placed in this status.

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Layoff Dressed & Ready to Work (LOD)**: Used in the event an employee is not dressed & ready to work either at the on-duty time or after lunch. All BNSF Crewmembers must report to the designated location ready to work dressed in proper PPE (boots on & laced), with a charged radio, company iPad and any other necessary items to perform service at on duty time.

☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

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**Layoff Fatigue (LOF)**: BNSF wants to ensure that everyone is rested and prepared to work safely. Employees who work numerous trips in a row or have worked consecutive long trips can use the LOF to take 24-hours off for rest. This code should not be used to extend rest days, vacation, or other codes.

#### ☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Layoff Personal (LOP)**: Personal layoffs are non-paid and approved based on the availability of manpower. Approvals for personal layoffs can be obtained through the pre-approved layoff programs found in TSS Crew or through the supervisor. These layoffs count as absences and can affect your standing in the Hi-Viz Guidelines.

#### ☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Layoff Sick (LOS)**: Employees suffering from a short-term illness may use this code to mark off. Unfortunately, this code is frequently misused and should be used sparingly. These layoffs count as absences and can affect your standing in the Hi-Viz Guidelines.

#### ☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Not Notified (LXU)**: LXX indicates an employee has been moved to a different assignment and the Crew Support Center is attempting to notify the employee. This code is automatic, and an employee cannot mark to this status on their own. Failure to take notification for employees not subject to call is LXX and is excluded time (which reduces the overall layoff threshold but is not considered unavailable). For employees subject to call, the employee has 10 hours of excluded time to take the call; if notification has not been accepted after 10 hours, all time is counted as unavailable in the Hi-Viz Guidelines and the LXX code is changed to LXU.

#### ☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**No Show (NOS)**: Workforce Management places an employee in this status when the employee fails to show for work. The time lost will count as an absence in the Hi-Viz Guidelines.

#### ☐ (P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

**Sick in Family (SIF)**: Employees may use this code to mark off when immediate family members require care due to a short-termed illness. Unfortunately, this code is frequently misused and should be used sparingly. These layoffs do count as absences and can affect your standing in the Hi-Viz Guidelines.

(P) Points Deducted & Ineligible for Good Attendance Credit

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FT. WORTH DIVISION

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,	)
Plaintiff-Counterclaim Defendant,	) )
v.	Civil Action No. 4:22-cv-052-P
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF	) )
TRANSPORTATION WORKERS –	) )
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION and BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE	) )
ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN,	) )
Defendants-Counterclaim Plaintiffs.	) )

#### **DECLARATION OF KENT PSOTA**

- I, Kent Psota, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare that the following facts are true and correct:
- 1. I am the General Chairman ("GC") of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen ("BLET") BNSF General Committee of Adjustment ("GCA"). I have served as GC for the GCA since 2019, and have been employed at Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") since 1994. I understand this Declaration is being offered in support of BLET's opposition to BNSF's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. This Declaration is based on personal knowledge, and I am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein.
- 2. As GC, I am responsible for negotiating, interpreting, and enforcing the collective bargaining agreements ("CBAs") under my jurisdiction between BLET and BNSF. I am familiar with the applicable local and national agreements, and the work practices relevant to this dispute which have become an integral and implicit part of those agreements between BLET and BNSF.

Locomotive engineers are within the craft or class of workers represented by BLET, and subject to the terms and conditions of employment set forth in the CBAs between BLET and BNSF.

- 3. BLET and BNSF are parties to multiple CBAs that govern the rates of pay, rules, and working conditions of BNSF's engineers represented by the Union. Some of the parties' collective bargaining agreements are system-wide in scope, meaning they cover all the engineers represented by BLET who are employed by BNSF. Other CBAs cover only those portions of the BNSF system that correspond to the properties of former railroads that have since been merged into BNSF.
- 4. The figures offered by BNSF on the effect of Hi Viz policy on Union leaders are not credible. They will have a severe impact eventually. For instance, Attachment 1 is a work history chart for A.J. McAfee, who was Vice Local Chairman of BLE-T Division 98, in calendar year 2021, a local division under my GCA. It is color-coordinated with movement codes.
- 5. On this chart, A.J. laid off sick 2 times in 2021, both touching union business days. He worked an "Unassigned Through Freight" (UTF) pool but now under the guise of Hi Viz he is included in assigned service, so each layoff would be 7 points plus an additional 3 points due to the conjunction penalty. He averaged over 18 starts and over 162 hours worked per month. During this year he only averaged 3 paid leave days per month. Only 1 time throughout 365 days would he have earned 4 points back for perfect attendance credit under Hi Viz. Under Hi Viz, he would have ended the year with 14 points, but in two 2 years he would be issued discipline for attendance.
- 6. Attachment 2 is a work history for Andrew Weingart, Vice Local Chairman of BLET Local Division 622. It shows that he laid off roughly 50 times within the calendar year of 2021 which were for Union business.

7. At his local division, they have 2 monthly meetings. He generally works

approximately 100 time claims per month that require research and attachment of documents to

the BNSF.

8. BNSF operational and clerical claims require 2 separate conferences generally

accounting for a minimum of 2 separate layoffs per month to argue the claims that the carrier

refused to pay according to collectively bargained agreements and contracts.

9. This is a time-consuming system and if this Hi-Viz attendance policy is allowed to

be kept in place, it will severally limit his ability and other Union officer's ability to adequately

represent and defend our members' collectively bargained rights and agreements.

10. Attachment 3 is a letter from the four BNSF BLET GC's trying to address BNSF's

planned changes to the attendance policy (that are incorporated into Hi Viz now) as early as 2020.

Despite BNSF's claims that it direly needs to enact the policy at this time, it had planned to make

these changes as early as 2020.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the

foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: February 7, 2022

Kent Psota

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January   February   March   April   May   June   July   August   September   October   November   December
VAC
VAC
VAC
VAC
7         VAC         UNB         VAC         UNB         UNB           8         UNB
8         UNB         UNB
9
10         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB           11         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB           12         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB           13         UNB         UNB         UNB           14         UNB         UNB         UNB           15         UNB         UNB         UNB           16         UNB         UNB         NTF
11         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         PLD           12         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         TPLD         UNB         UNB         TF         UNB         UNB         TF         UNB
12         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         PLD           13         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         UNB         PLD         UNB
13 UNB UNB UNB UNB PLD UNB
14         UNB         UNB         UNB         PLD           15         UNB         UNB         NTF         UNB
15 UNB UNB PLD UNB NTF
16 UNB UNB NTF
17 UNB UNB UNB
18 LXX UNB UNB UNB
19 VAC UNB
20 LOS "-10" VAC UNB UNB UNB
21 UNB VAC UNB UNB
22 UNB UNB UNB UNB UNB
23 UNB
24 VAC "+4 Points" UNB
25 UNB
26 UNB UNB
27 UNB
28 UNB UNB UNB UNB
29 UNB UNB UNB UNB
30 UNB UNB LOS "-10" UNB
31 PLD UNB UNB PLD
<u>Total</u> <u>Pe</u>
rts 19 16 17 19 23 18 20 15 15 19 15 21 <b>217</b>
urs Worked 169.7 147.6 176.4 171.2 186.1 157.6 178.2 132.9 159.3 178.9 132.9 164.4 <b>1955</b>
d Leave (Days) 1.6 3.4 3.0 1.0 0.7 2.0 7.0 3.7 0.0 3.2 4.3 1.0 <b>31</b>

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

**End Month Points** 

No Currently Valid Report Selected

\*\*

# **ATTACHMENT 2**

Movement History Records for Date Range 01/01/21 to 10/04/21 at ALL STNS

IN Last Name	Mve Cde	Job From (	/ Boa:	rd Oc	Permane Asgnmt	nt A Oc W	Movem Date	nent Time	Prog Date	ram Tim
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN 30	ALN	1	ALN 30	W	010421	8000	0104	010
* MEETING * Followed AJ WEINGART	by emp UNB	oloyee J ALN 30	LINDSA ALN	Y 1	0 ALN 30	315507 W	7 011421	2141	0114	224
* CLAIMS * Followed AJ WEINGART										
* Immediate Layoff * Followed AJ WEINGART	Decree	~ +								
* CLAIMS  * Followed  AJ WEINGART										
* MEETING										
* Followed AJ WEINGART * Bumped AI HEUPEL										
AJ WEINGART	UNB	st								
AJ WEINGART  * CLAIMS CONFERENCE AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALNE034					022221			
* Immediate Layoff AJ WEINGART	Reque	st					031021			
* Immediate Layoff * Followed AJ WEINGART	Reque by em	st ployee JR	GLASSE	BURN	ALN 30	031447 W	6 031821	0657	0318	075
* CLAIMS RESEARCH  * Followed  AJ WEINGART						111486 W	7 031921	0924	0319	102
AJ WEINGART  * Immediate Layoff  * Followed  AJ WEINGART	Reque by em	st ployee WR	SHINN	_	ALIV 30	 171103	5			
AJ WEINGART * MEETING	UNB	ALN 30	ALN	1	ALN 30	W	040521	1212	0405	131
* MEETING * Followed AJ WEINGART * CONFERENCE	by em	ployee FL ALN 1	ALN	1	ALN 30	W	040621	1102	0406	120
<pre>* Followed AJ WEINGART</pre>	by em	ployee DC 3 ALN 30	BREEN ALN	1	ALN 30	171101 W	.9 7 042621	2035	0426	213
* CLAIMS * Followed AJ WEINGART	by em	nployee JR 3 ALN 1	GLASSI ALN	BURN 1	ALN 30	031447 W	76 7 042721	1826	0427	192
* CLAIMS * Followed AJ WEINGART	by en	aployee WF 3 ALN 30	R SHINN ALN	1	ALN 30	171103 V	35 V 050321	1349	0503	145
* CLAIMS CONFERENC  * Followed  AJ WEINGART	'H'					030592				
* Bumped GH ISKE								Δnn 32		

App. 32

AJ WEINGADESE 4:22-cv-000528PAID booment 49ALN Filed 02/0 * MEETING		
* Followed by employee T GRAY	0305722	
* MEETING  * Followed by employee T GRAY  AJ WEINGART UNB ALN 3 ALN 1	ALN 30 W 060721 0653 0607 075	5
AU WEINGARI OND ADN 5 ADN 1		
* CLAIMS	7254622	
* Followed by employee LP RAMIREZ AJ WEINGART UNB ALN 30 ALN 1	7334032	5
	ALN 30 W 061121 0552 0611 065	,
* CLAIMS CONFERENCE	1511005	
* Followed by employee WR SHINN	1711035	
AJ WEINGART	A 062021 1523 0620 162	2
* Bumped GH ISKE		
* Bumped GH ISKE AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6026 01 ALN 1	ALN6026 01 W 062221 2211 0622 231	1
* CLAIMS.		
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6026 01 ALN 1	ALN6026 01 W 062521 0731 0625 083	3
* CLAIMS AND RESEARCH		
* Denied Layoff on 2021-06-25 07.30.00	on layoff code PLD	
penied Layott on 2021-06-25 07.30.00	ALN6026 01 W 062821 2150 0628 225	5
	ALM6020 01 W 002021 2130 0020 223	
* SCAN DOCUMENTS AND WORK CLAIMS	A 063021 0000 0630 010	0
AJ WEINGART	A 063021 0000 0630 010	O
* Bumped FL DOSS	00	2
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN 1 ALN 1	ALN 30 W 070221 2338 0703 003	3
* CLAIMS AND SCAN ATTACHEMENT		
* Followed by employee BJ SLUNECKA	0097832	_
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN 30 ALN 1	ALN 30 W 070521 2023 0705 212	2
+ MDDDTNG		
* Followed by employee J LINDSAY	0315507	
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 072021 0104 0720 020	0
* CLAIMS		
	ALN6058 01 W 072421 2003 0724 21	0
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1		
* CLAIMS CONFERENCE	ALN6058 01 W 080121 1900 0801 20	0
	ALINOUSC OF II OCCUPE TO	
* MEETING	ALN6058 01 W 081521 2341 0816 00	4
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALINGO36 01 W 001321 2311 0010 00	
* SCAN CLAIM DOCUMENTS	ALN6058 01 W 081521 2345 0816 00	4
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN 1 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 081521 2345 0810 00	-
* CLAIMS		
* Followed by employee K MAY	3053691	
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 083021 0656 0830 07	5
* LOCKER CLAIMS		
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 090521 1916 0905 20	1
* MEETING AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 092421 2226 0924 23	2
* SCANNING AT WEINCART INB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALN6058 01 W 093021 1533 0930 16	3
AU WEINGARI CHE IIII.	1111110000 01	
* Immediate Layoff Request	ALN6058 01 W 100421 1833 1004 19	3
AJ WEINGART UNB ALN6058 01 ALN 1	ALMOUSO OF W 100421 1000 1001 10	
* MEETING		

\*\*\*\*\* End of Report \*\*\*\*\*\*

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INFPC001 BNSF ALLINE

- Crew History -

13:53:43MT

Movement History Records for Date Range 10/05/21 to 02/01/22 at

	Mve	From		To		Perm	anent		A	Movem	ent	Progr	am
FM Last Name			Board		Board		gnmnt		W	Date	Time	Date	Time
rm Last Name													
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN		ALN		ALN	6058	01	W	1009	0014	1009	0114
* WORKING CLAIMS					_								
* WORKING CLAIMS	ed par	emplo	yee J	CANOVA	1								
	UNB	AT M	6058 01	ΔT.N	1	ALN	6058	01	W	1020	2136	1020	2238
AJ WEINGART	OIND	ALIN	0030 01	ALLIV	_		0000	-					
* MEETING	TIME	ALN	1	ALN	1	ALN	6058	01	W	1020	2140	1020	2240
	UNB	ALIN	1	ALLIV	<del>-</del>	11111	0000	-			W III		
* MEETING AND CL	AIMS		TOO CE	DAMCES	7								
		empro	yee CE 6058 01	RAMBE.	1	ΔT.N	6058	0.1	W	1101	1317	1101	1418
AJ WEINGART	UNB		6058 01	ALIN	1	VIII	0030	01	•	1101	101		
* MEETING AND CO		CE	6050 01	71 T TT	1	7\ T \T	6058	0.1	TAT	1108	0927	1108	1027
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 01	ALN	1	ALIN	0030	01	**	1100	0,52,7	1100	
* CLAIMS CATCHUP			6050 01	71 T TT	1	7\ T .NT	6059	0.1	TAT	1116	1157	1116	1257
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 01	. ALIN	1	ALIN	0030	OI	**	1110	113,	1110	
* MEETING			6050 01	7. T. 3.T	1	7/ T / T	6050	0.1	TAT	1204	1248	1204	1349
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 01	ALN	1	ALIN	6036	OI	VV	1204	1240	1201	1010
* CLAIMS RESEARC				7 T 3 T	1	70 T 70T	COEO	0.1	TAT	1205	1123	1205	1223
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	1	ALN	1	ALIN	6056	OI	VV	1205	1125	1205	1225
* MEETING AND CL	AIMS	_											
* Follow	ed by	emplo	yee RJ	ROBB		7 7 37	C0E0	0.1	TAT	1210	0.852	1219	0953
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 01	ALN	1	ALN	6058	ΟŢ	W	1219	0032	1217	0,555
* CLAIMS CONFERE	INCE				_	2 7 27	6050	0.1	T.7	0100	0421	0109	0532
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 03	L ALN	1	ALN	6058	OI	W	0109	0431	0105	0332
* CLAIMS RESEARC	CH				-	7 T 7 T	COFO	0.1	TAT	0110	0606	0110	0707
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 03	L ALN	1	ALN	6058	OI	VV	0110	0000	0110	0,0,
* MEETING					1	71 T TT	COEO	0.1	TAT	0112	2212	0112	2312
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 03	L ALN	1	ALN	6058	OI	VV	0112	2212	0112	2312
* CONFERENCE CAI	L					2 7 27	C0F0	0.1	TAT	0110	2026	0119	2126
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 0	l ALN	1	ALN	6058	OI	W	0119	2020	0117	2120
* MEETING							6050	0.1	T.T	0100	1011	0123	2045
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 0	1 ALN	1	ALN	6058	01	W	0123	1944	0123	2045
* CLAIMS								0.1		0100	1045	0120	1945
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	6058 0	1 ALN	1	ALN	6058	01	W	0128	1845	0128	1943
* INVEST AND CLA	AIMS							0.5		0100	1717	0120	10/0
AJ WEINGART	UNB	ALN	1	ALN	1	ALN	6058	01	W	0129	1/4/	0129	1040
* REGULAR MEETIN	NG AND	GCA											
* Follow	wed by	empl	oyee MD	EVERA	GE-JOHN	ISON							

\*\*\*\* End of Report \*\*\*\*

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Kent Psota General Chairman BNSF(CB&Q/GN/NP/SP&S) Rob Cunningham General Chairman BNSF (ATSF)

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

Bobby Brown General Chairman BNSF (C&S/CRI&P/FWD) Jeff Thurman General Chairman BNSF (SLSF)

**ATTACHMENT 3** 

Sam Macedonio AVP Labor Relations P.O. Box 961030 Fort Worth, TX 76161-0030 December 18, 2020 File: ATG and Layoffs

Sam,

We are writing you out of concern based upon BNSF Management's continued disregard of their obligation to abide by existing collective bargaining rules and established practices in relation to allowing a sufficient number of employee's time off, which would enable them to spend time with their loved ones and have a life outside of the workplace. Our members work in an unforgiving work environment that requires they be ready for a call to duty at any time, day or night, 24/7. BNSF's squeeze to "do more with less" is putting undue hardship on TY&E employees and their families. The repeated calls for TY&E employees to do more and more, due to rapidly changing business models is growing tiresome. We are asking that BNSF take an approach that helps provide employees when they are needed and allows the employees the ability to have time off to participate in the lives of their families.

First, we must look at some history of the actions taken previously by upper management at BNSF. Under previous administrations, BNSF systematically began taking a unilateral approach to operational changes involving longstanding TY&E work rules, agreements and work-rest initiatives.

In the past, we have had rest cycle boards such as 11-4, 10-5, 7-3, to name a few. When RSIA was first introduced some locations had rest cycle boards stripped without ever discussing feasible rest options. In 2014, after a heated discussion in a SACP meeting, BNSF canceled all of the remaining rest cycle initiatives in effect. These rest cycles boards allowed employees to get needed rest and time away from the workplace. (Attachment A)

One thing this did accomplish was the erosion of the working relationships between the employees, their representative organizations and management. All of these work-rest initiatives were eventually stripped from the employees.

Following this unilateral action by BNSF cancelling all work-rest initiatives across the system, a commitment was made that there would be an emphasis placed upon a "new" style of rest initiative called PWS – Predictive Work Schedule, as outlined in your letter dated June 12, 2014, that would serve to give the employees a predictable work schedule using home cycle times. This empty promise has fallen short, as there are only a handful of locations that were ever actually offered a PWS fatigue mitigation program. As example, on the former CB&Q, SP/NP, and GN locations, only 2 of our terminals currently enjoy the benefits of a PWS work-rest system.

Unfortunately, as of late, PWS has now also evolved into an unacceptable word in the BNSF's Senior Management vocabulary.

Also, during this period, BNSF also went all out in cancelling the long-established provision of FIFO (First, in First Out) that was acknowledged and memorialized in our various CBA schedules. This was done to make employees immediately available instead of waiting for their turn to return to town as agreed to for previous 80+ years. This too served little relief to the Carrier as it single-handedly changed the system to which an employee could have some predictable time off and instead served to place the employees at the bottom of the home working board on their return from any layoff in attempts to get them back in place to "workfaster". While the premise of this could only be assumed to force people into working more, in actuality it did little more than expand the layoff problems by allowing an employee to miss a day of work, suffer no financial consequence and mark up for work the next day. Like the above, this solved nothing, but in reflection, destabilized the workforce and led to more layoffs and unpredictability.

Undeterred by the failure of these unilaterally imposed changes to provide the Carrier relief with their self-imposed manpower issues, BNSF then moved on with their "throw everything against the wall and see what sticks" tactics by use of Article IX's. The changes sought through these Article IX notices involved attempts to consolidate the multiple pools at individual terminals and make an employee work any direction, in any pool, at any time. This, too was met with much criticism from the Organizations. Seniority now meant nothing, and the perks of having an employee assigned to his/her "preferred run," which was well deserved after a successful career working their way up in seniority, was immediately stripped away by the serving of these notices.

Likewise, this change of turn handling to the "new" use of turn-removal when an employee is absent, was then imposed on all other former committees on the property other than the ATSF, which had it prior. This action has served only to further confuse employees, making it extremely challenging to obtain proper rest before being called to service by the Carrier. These reactive and obviously imprudent actions taken under your predecessors' direction have served as nothing gainful to either the employees or the Carrier. In fact, these operational changes in crew handling did nothing to solve or even improve the TY&E attendance issues and instead only further caused increased difficulties with layoff issues and unpredictability.

After the Organizations repeated pleas, that these consolidations were running employees into the ground, and we needed a rest structure, BNSF moved on to allow some 4-2 rest cycles However, only those who agreed to a Pilot have been allowed the utilization of a 4/2 work/rest cycle. As you are aware, this allowed for an employee who worked 4 working starts to be afforded the option of requesting up to 24/36/48 hours of earned rest after accumulating the required number of work events. If your current conversations are any indication of your upcoming intentions, it is believed those 4/2 cycles are no longer in favor with the Carrier either, and are now becoming yet another "dirty-word" within the management hallways at BNSF.

We include all of the above to briefly outline all of these changes in policy and handling, which unmistakably have not yielded the results you expected. We also must express our frustration that the Carrier insists to go it alone and seek little to no input form the employees or their representatives. It is also commonplace when making suggestions for improvement that we are often with met with a "NO" or "They aren't interested in doing that," which fixes nothing. It is

clear that the unilateral actions taken above have not made the workplace better for the employees or the Carrier. Instead, is can be argued that all of these changes have made the conditions much worse and an employee/employer relationship non-existent.

The BLET has attempted repeatedly to offer suggestions and comments on how to achieve these needed improvements through the collective bargaining process, which historically has served both parties well, but they seem to give this proven method of working together no consideration whatsoever. We are now at a crossroads wherein the Carrier is making veiled threats under the guise of needing improvements in predictability and availability, but currently will not and does not solicit the BLET for any constructive talks or input. Being repeatedly met with the above NO's or They rhetoric serves to solve nothing.

In summary of the above, all of these actions have done nothing to make the workforce more predictable but has instead made the workforce unpredictable and unnecessarily incensed the employees. It gives good reason that we had did things for 100 plus years the way we did because it simply worked better. To believe that changing the rules and the processes has made any actual gains in productivity is simply unfounded.

BNSF is going out of their way again to change processes in attempts to force an employee to work more. Recently, you took a position concerning "high impact" layoffs. This was nothing more than a confusing unwritten policy that was once again implemented with no forewarning to the employees or input from the Organizations whatsoever. You nor your front-line management can clearly explain how this policy works, yet you selectively intimidate employees into not taking a day off for fear of being in violation of a General Notice, which was finally released to the employees on December 18, 2020. This unfair handling, which has already caused many unnecessary disciplinary events, implores employees to work in a fashion that could put them in harm's way for actions that happened up to a year previously and being held accountable for something they were not even given the common courtesy of knowing about until December 18, 2020. BNSF has selectively intimidated employees to keep them from taking a day off by instilling fear of discipline.

The latest attack, which will roll-out on January 1, 2021, now limits allocations for single-day layoffs to levels that will not even accommodate the current CBA earned days that our membership have earned by their various years of employment. This is discernably just another misaligned process that will yield little productivity from the workforce and serve only to antagonize hard working TY&E employees across the system. Our memberships simply have had their fill with the constant manipulation of chasing an earned day off. (Attachment B)

All of the attempts the Carrier has put forth to this point to limit an employee's time away from the workplace while allowing even a modicum of predictable and well-deserved time off have had little success. Perhaps it is time to move on and try something new and have a cooperative partnership.

We would request that BNSF open meaningful conversations with the BLET. We feel that we have a lot to offer and would like to discuss, for example:

Expansion of PWS - (let the organizations manage, we will do it)

Systemwide 4 & 2

Location Specific 7 &3's, 10 & 5's or similar. Many options here.

**Bid-Packs** 

**Expediter Agreements** 

Weekend Incentive or Weekend Coverage Boards.

Plus, many other ideas can be discussed.

In closing, you can unilaterally continue to tighten the screws all you want. Those actions will, much like the other efforts already put forth and mentioned above, not fix a thing. A draconian attendance policy that you plan to introduce early in 2021, that is modeled after other RR Carriers will not solve your problems either. Strangling allocations to never provide a day off from work will not solve your problems. This will instead have quite the opposite effect and lead to a host of current dependable, hardworking employees to voluntary leave service or be dismissed from BNSF. If you want to see real improvement, we once again offer our experienced people to run your operations via detached employees and have honest feedback in the decision-making. We can and will show you how it can be done safely, effectively, and profitably.

For all the reasons listed above, we would request and encourage you to bring the parties to the table to have real and meaningful conversations to work towards a path forward. Our memberships who have worked throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with much uncertainty and any clear option to some much-needed time away from the workplace deserve to be treated much better. We will await your reply.

Respectfully,

**BLET General Chairman** 

SLET General Chairman

cc: Matt Garland

**BLET General Chairman** 



MILTON H. SIEGELE, JR. Assistant Vice President Labor Relations

#### BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY

P.O. Box 961030 Ft. Worth. Texas 76161-0030 2600 Lou Menk Drive Ft. Worth, Texas 76131-2830 Phone (817) 352-1068 Fax (817) 352-7319 E-mail milton.siegele@bnsf.com

June 12, 2014

Matt Wilson General Chairman, BLET 1716 Western Center Blvd. Fort Worth, TX 76131-2233

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am writing to confirm cancellation of the work/rest agreements listed on the attachment.

These agreements were implemented on a location-by-location basis following the implementation of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (RSIA), to provide work/rest arrangements over and above that provided by RSIA. However, these agreements have become impracticable and obsolete.

I want to emphasize the commitment we made regarding Predictive Work Schedules (PWS). PWS is a more advanced, indeed, state-of-the-art, approach to work/rest issues. We remain ready to discuss with you, at your earliest convenience, PWS for each of these locations. We believe PWS, like we recently implemented at Tulsa and Lincoln, is simply a much better model.

#### Please consider this letter the cancellation notice for the agreement(s) listed in the attachment.

On the effective date of the cancellation, the following will pertain:

- Rest days otherwise beginning on or after the cancellation date will not go into effect. If employees have made plans for those days off, they must confirm time off through a preapproved layoff request or through their supervisors.
- Rest days that started prior to the cancellation date and have not yet ended will end at 7 a.m. on the date of cancellation. Again, if additional time off is needed, the employee should make prior arrangements to extend the time.

Please be assured that we will strive to make this transition as smooth as possible. As always, we will continue to provide the other work/rest programs such as RSIA mandatory time off, monthly hourly caps, "Smart Rest," etc. We would welcome any questions or recommendations to improve the process.

Sincerely,

Milton H. Siegele, Jr.

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	I			Brd			Rest	Set-Up	TYE Comp			Effective	Cancel
Div	Station	Brd	Agmt	Туре	Craft	Description	Cycle	Sfx	Rule	RSIA	Cycles	Date	Date
MON	GLENDI	111		RD		GLE/FOR POOL - HOME ENGR (7/3)	0703	02 (L)	8002	Attach C		01/25/12	07/12/14
MON	GLENDI	211	NP	RD	BLET	GLE/GLE HELPER POOL - HOME ENGR 7/3	0703	01 (M)	8000	Attach A		10/20/09	07/12/14
MON	GLENDI	30	NP	ХВ	BLET	GLENDIVE ENGR XTB	0602	01 (M)	8001	Attach B		10/20/09	07/12/14
MON	GREFAL	30	GN	ХВ	BLET	GREFALLS ENGINEERS XTB	0602	01 (M)	8001	Attach B		10/20/09	07/12/14
MON	GREFAL	101	GN	RD	BLET	GRF/SHM POOL - HOME ENGR	0602	01 (M)	8001	Attach B		10/20/09	07/12/14
MON	GREFAL	201	GN	RD	BLET	GRF/LAU POOL - HOME ENGR	0703	01 (M)	8000	Attach A		10/20/09	07/12/14
MON	MANDAN	101	NP	RD	BLET	MAN/GLE POOL - HOME ENGR 7/3	0703	02 (L)	8002	Attach C		02/08/12	07/12/14
TWI	MANDAN	30	NP	ХВ	BLET	MANDAN ENG 6/2 XTB	0602	01 (M)	8001	Attach B		10/21/09	07/12/14
TWI	MANDAN	201	NP	RD	BLET	MAN/DIL POOL - HOME ENGR (ACT @ 5)	0703	01 (M)	8000	Attach A		10/21/09	07/12/14
TWI	SIOCIT	30	GN	ХВ	BLET	SIOCITY ENGR XTB	0602	01 (M)	8001	Attach B		10/21/09	07/12/14
TWI	SUPEWI	30	GN	ХВ	BLET	SUPERIOR ENG XBRD	0502	04 (L)	8003	or E w/101	A/C/E	08/07/12	07/12/14
TWI	SUPEWI	101	NP	RD	BLET	SUP/CSL-NTW-SVW POOL - HOME ENGR	0603	01 (L)	8003	n E with Bo	ard 30	06/01/12	07/12/14
TWI	SUPEWI	601	NP	RD	BLET	SUP/DIL POOL - HOME ENGR	0703	02 (L)	8003	D with Bo	ard 30	06/01/12	07/12/14

LOCATION	CURRENT ALLOCATION	ALLOCATION AS OF 01/01/21	LAYOFF DAYS LOST PER WEEK	ALLOCATION NEEDED
	WD/WE	WD/WE		TO COVER FLOAT DAYS
KANSAS CITY, MO	3 WD/2 WE	2 WD/1 WE	7	2.2 PER DAY
ALLIANCE	14 WD / 10 WE	6 WD / 4 WE	50	4.4 PER DAY
LINCOLN	13 WD / 9 WE	6 WD / 4 WE	43	6.5 PER DAY
LACROSSE	6WD / 4 WE	3 WD / 2WE	18	2.1 PER DAY
GALESBURG	11 WD / 8 WE	6 WD / 4 WE	32	5.0 PER DAY
W. QUINCY	4 WD/ 3 WE	1WD/1WE	18	1.4 PER DAY
VANCOUVER	7 WD / 5 WE	3 WD / 2 WE	25	3.3 PER DAY
SPOKANE	12WD / 9 WE	6 WD / 4 WE	39	5.5 PER DAY
SHERIDAN	4 WD / 2 WE	2WD/1WE	11	1.8 PER DAY
PASCO	2 WD / 2 WE	1WD/1WE	7	1.1 PER DAY
WHITEFISH	6WD / 4 WE	3WD/2WE	18	3.2 PER DAY
GREAT FALLS	2 WD / 1 WE	1WD/1WE	4	1.1 PER DAY
WILLMAR	2 WD/ 1 WE	1WD/1WE	4	1.2 PER DAY
SIOUX CITY	3 WD/2 WE	1WD/1WE	11	1.5 PER DAY
CRESTON	2 WD / 2 WE	1WD/1WE	7	1 PER DAY
GILLETTE	7 WD / 5 WE	3 WD / 2WE	25	3.2 PER DAY
DILLWORTH	5 WD / 3 WE	2WD/1WE	18	2.3 PER DAY
SUPERIOR	3 WD/2 WE	1WD/1WE	11	1.3 PER DAY
MANDAN	3 WD/2 WE	2WD/1WE	7	2.3 PER DAY